

As noted above, in various embodiments, the Contact Discriminator is capable of differentiating between the user's left and right hands. Consequently, by associating this profile with User A, the Contact Discriminator can simply ignore (in the above-described scenario) any "input" received from the user's left hand. Similarly, "User B" may tend to frequently hover a pen (not intended as input) held in his right hand while providing a finger-touch input using that same hand. Consequently, by associating this profile with User B, the Contact Discriminator can simply ignore (in the above-described scenario) any "input" received from the from a hover-type input of the pen when the user is providing a finger-touch input with the hand holding the pen.

[0202] Such profiles can be stored in the cloud, stored on particular touch-sensitive computing devices, stored on some type of computer-readable memory, etc., and then simply downloaded to one or more touch-sensitive computing devices by the user. In other words, all of the personalization information described above could be stored locally on the machine, or it could be stored in the cloud and just cached on the local machine whenever that machine is to be personalized for a particular user. If stored in cloud and cached dynamically, then if a user is using a touch-sensitive computing device belonging to another person, even for only a few minutes, the new user's profile can be temporarily uploaded and used for immediate customization of that device for the user. That device can then simply revert to the owner's profile as soon as the new user relinquishes control of the device.

[0203] 3.0 Exemplary Operating Environments:

[0204] The Contact Discriminator described herein is operational within numerous types of general purpose or special purpose computing system environments or configurations. FIG. 7 illustrates a simplified example of a general-purpose computer system on which various embodiments and elements of the Contact Discriminator, as described herein, may be implemented. It should be noted that any boxes that are represented by broken or dashed lines in FIG. 7 represent alternate embodiments of the simplified computing device, and that any or all of these alternate embodiments, as described below, may be used in combination with other alternate embodiments that are described throughout this document.

[0205] For example, FIG. 7 shows a general system diagram showing a simplified computing device such as computer 700. Such computing devices can be typically be found in devices having at least some minimum computational capability, including, but not limited to, personal computers, server computers, hand-held computing devices, laptop or mobile computers, communications devices such as cell phones and PDA's, multiprocessor systems, microprocessor-based systems, set top boxes, programmable consumer electronics, network PCs, minicomputers, mainframe computers, audio or video media players, etc.

[0206] To allow a device to implement the Contact Discriminator, the device should have a sufficient computational capability and system memory to enable basic computational operations. In particular, as illustrated by FIG. 7, the computational capability is generally illustrated by one or more processing unit(s) 710, and may also include one or more GPUs 715, either or both in communication with system memory 720. Note that that the processing unit(s) 710 of the general computing device of may be specialized microprocessors, such as a DSP, a VLIW, or other micro-controller, or

can be conventional CPUs having one or more processing cores, including specialized GPU-based cores in a multi-core CPU.

[0207] In addition, the simplified computing device of FIG. 7 may also include other components, such as, for example, a communications interface 730. The simplified computing device of FIG. 7 may also include one or more conventional computer input devices 740 (e.g., pointing devices, keyboards, audio input devices, video input devices, haptic input devices, devices for receiving wired or wireless data transmissions, etc.). The simplified computing device of FIG. 7 may also include other optional components, such as, for example, one or more conventional computer output devices 750 (e.g., touch-sensitive display device(s) 755, one or more other touch sensitive surfaces 790, audio output devices, video output devices, devices for transmitting wired or wireless data transmissions, etc.). Note that typical communications interfaces 730, input devices 740, output devices 750, and storage devices 760 for general-purpose computers are well known to those skilled in the art, and will not be described in detail herein.

[0208] The simplified computing device of FIG. 7 may also include a variety of computer readable media. Computer readable media can be any available media that can be accessed by computer 700 via storage devices 760 and includes both volatile and nonvolatile media that is either removable 770 and/or non-removable 780, for storage of information such as computer-readable or computer-executable instructions, data structures, program modules, or other data. By way of example, and not limitation, computer readable media may comprise computer storage media and communication media. Computer storage media includes, but is not limited to, computer or machine readable media or storage devices such as DVD's, CD's, floppy disks, tape drives, hard drives, optical drives, solid state memory devices, RAM, ROM, EEPROM, flash memory or other memory technology, magnetic cassettes, magnetic tapes, magnetic disk storage, or other magnetic storage devices, or any other device which can be used to store the desired information and which can be accessed by one or more computing devices.

[0209] Storage of information such as computer-readable or computer-executable instructions, data structures, program modules, etc., can also be accomplished by using any of a variety of the aforementioned communication media to encode one or more modulated data signals or carrier waves, or other transport mechanisms or communications protocols, and includes any wired or wireless information delivery mechanism. Note that the terms "modulated data signal" or "carrier wave" generally refer to a signal that has one or more of its characteristics set or changed in such a manner as to encode information in the signal. For example, communication media includes wired media such as a wired network or direct-wired connection carrying one or more modulated data signals, and wireless media such as acoustic, RF, infrared, laser, and other wireless media for transmitting and/or receiving one or more modulated data signals or carrier waves. Combinations of the any of the above should also be included within the scope of communication media.

[0210] Further, software, programs, and/or computer program products embodying the some or all of the various embodiments of the Contact Discriminator described herein, or portions thereof, may be stored, received, transmitted, or read from any desired combination of computer or machine-